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Appl. No. 10/632,004

PATENT

Amdt. dated August 8, 2006
Reply to Office Action of April 11, 2006

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed April 11, 2006. Claims 1-6 were pending in the present application. Claims 1-4 are allowed. This Amendment does not add, cancel, or amend any claims, leaving pending in the application claims 1-6. Reconsideration of the rejected claims is respectfully requested.

I. Allowed Claims

Claims 1-4 are allowed.

II. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 5 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by JP-2002-109750 (the '750 reference). Claims 5 and 6 also are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by the admitted prior art. Applicants respectfully submit that neither the '750 reference nor the not the admitted prior art disclose each element of these claims.

For example, Applicants' claim 5 recites a disk recording method of recording data onto an optical disk composed to have a wobble PM (Phase Modulation) format, comprising the steps of:

> detecting a synchronous signal to be modulated into a reproduced wobble signal and indicating the head of a first data component unit;
> detecting an address to be modulated into a reproduced track signal and contained in a second data component unit; and
> specifying a linking position in synchronous to wobble positions on said disk, based on the detection timing of said synchronous signal and said detection address and thereby controlling a recording operation for a recording target track sector

Such limitations are not disclosed by the '750 reference.

As shown in Fig. 11, for example, the '750 reference discloses a synchronization signal (ADSY) obtained from ADIP (Address in Pre-groove) (similar to the "reproduced wobble signal of the present disclosure) and a clock signal (PCK) obtained from EFM (similar to a "reproduced track signal" of the present disclosure) used to generate an internal link (LINK (h')). That is, the internal link is generated by counting the clock signal (PCK) from the rising edge of the synchronization signal (ADSY). For example, when the count value becomes "588 x 39", it

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is determined that a reproduction position of a disk has entered into the 40th EFM (Eight to Fourteen Modulation) frame from the detection of the synchronization signal, and when the count value becomes "588 x 59", it is determined that a reproduction position of a disk has entered into the 60th EFM frame from the detection of the synchronization signal. That is, the 59th EFM frame has finished. The internal link (LINK (h')) is set to "H" between a period from the 40th EFM frame to the 59th EFM frame and set to "L" in other periods.

In Fig. 12, the '750 reference discloses that the synchronization signal (ADSY) obtained from the ADIP and the clock signal (PCK) obtained from the EFM are used to generate the internal link (LINK (h')). A corresponding to a link area regulated in Linking Rule is generated from the internal link (LINK (h')) and address data (j) which is obtained by demodulating a reproduction signal from the disk. When the address data (j) is a specified address FCh, the internal link (LINK (h')) is output as the timing signal (LINK (h)) without any change. When the address data (j) is an address other than the specified address FCh, the timing signal (LINK (h)) is output as "L".

In the '750 reference, the synchronization signal (ADSY), clock signal (PCK) and the address data are necessary to generate the timing signal (LINK (h)) corresponding to the link area. In the invention of Applicants' claim 5, the linking position is specified using a synchronization signal obtained from a reproduced wobble signal and an address signal obtained from a reproduced track signal (EFM). An address on a track, that is an address obtained from EFM, is not used in the '750 reference.

In claim 6, the linking position is specified using a synchronization signal obtained from the reproduced track signal (EFM) and an address signal obtained from the reproduced track signal (EFM).

As is clear from the above, in the invention recited in claims 5 and 6, the address signal obtained from the reproduced track signal (EFM) is used to specify the linking position. Because of this, even though there is a defect in a disk, a track to be used for recording can be easily specified.

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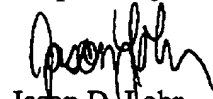Reply to Office Action of April 11, 2006

Neither the cited reference or the admitted prior art disclose the features of the

present invention above mentioned. Accordingly, claims 5 and 6 should not be anticipated by

these references.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this

Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an

early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of

this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,

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